GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1325
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2002
MERGER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES
SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have merged some rural development schemes during the last five years and till date;

(b) if so, the details thereof State-wise and the reasons therefor;

(c) the extent to which the merger of different rural development schemes into one umbrella scheme improved the performance of the Rural Development Schemes;

(d) whether the money given by the Central Government for these schemes are diverted; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon ?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR)

(a) & (b) The Ministry of Rural Development have merged the erstwhile schemes of the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), the Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM), the Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA), the Ganga Kalyan Yojana (GKY), the Million Wells Scheme (MWS) and the Supply of Improved Tool Kits to Rural Artisans SITRA) into a new programme, namely, the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) with effect from 1.4.1999. The Wage Employment Schemes, namely, the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) and the Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) were restructured w.e.f. 1.4.1999 and these schemes have subsequently been merged into a new wage Employment Scheme, namely, the Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) w.e.f. 25th September, 2001. These Schemes are being implemented in all the States and Union Territories, except Delhi and Chandigarh.

(c) There is no umbrella Scheme for Rural Development. However, the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) is a holistic Programme of Self employment, viz. organisation of the rural poor into Self Help Groups (SHGs) and their capacity building, training, Planning of activity clusters, infrastructure, technology and marketing support. The Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) has resulted in better transparency, improved targeting, more wage employment generation and food security.

(d) & (e) The alleged irregularities which have come to notice in respect of some of the Rural Development Programmes include temporary/diversion of funds for the Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) and Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY) in various States and Union Territories. These have been referred to the State Governments concerned for corrective action.